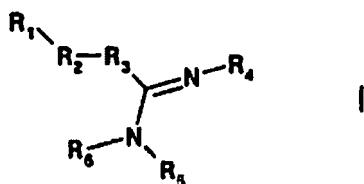


## AMENDMENTS TO AND LISTING OF CLAIMS

Kindly amend the Claims as follows:

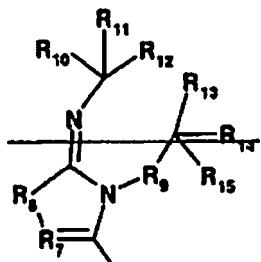
1. (Currently amended [second time]) A compound of formula I:



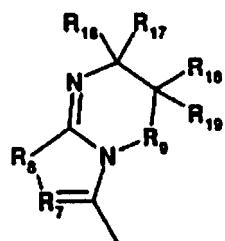
wherein

R<sub>1</sub> is a residue of formula (a), (b) or (c)

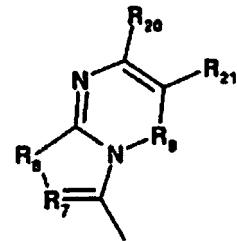
(a)



(b)



(c)



R<sub>2</sub> is -(CR<sub>22</sub>R<sub>23</sub>)<sub>1-3</sub>- or -C(O)-;

each of R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>8</sub> independently is S;

each of R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub>, independently, is optionally R<sub>25</sub>-substituted C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl or saturated C<sub>8-12</sub>-polycyclic residue; or optionally R<sub>26</sub>- and/or R<sub>27</sub>-substituted aryl, arylC<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl or heteroaryl; ~~wherein up to 4 carbon atoms of R<sub>4</sub> and/or R<sub>5</sub> are optionally substituted by S, O or NR<sub>24</sub>~~;

R<sub>6</sub> is H; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-cycloalkyl; or optionally R<sub>26</sub>- and/or R<sub>27</sub>-substituted aryl, arylC<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl or heteroaryl;

R<sub>7</sub> is CR<sub>28</sub> or N;

$R_9$  is a direct bond;  $(CR_{22}R_{23})_{1-2}$ ; or  $NR_{24}$ ;  
each of  $R_{10-23}$ ,  $R_{16}$ ,  $R_{17}$ ,  $R_{18}$ ,  $R_{19}$ ,  $R_{20}$ ,  $R_{21}$  and  $R_{28}$ , independently, is H; F; Cl; Br;  $C_1-C_6$ -alkyl;  $C_2-C_6$ -alkoxyalkyl;  $C_1-C_6$ -halogenoalkyl;  $C_3-C_6$ -cycloalkyl; optionally  $R_{26}$ - and/or  $R_{27}$ -substituted aryl or heteroaryl;  $CONR_{29}R_{30}$ ;  $COOR_{29}$ ; CN;  $NO_2$ ; or  $OR_{31}$ ; or  
~~two of  $R_{10-19}$  which are attached to the same carbon atom, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a 3-7 membered nonaromatic ring optionally containing up to two heteroatoms selected independently from N, O and S; or  $R_{17}$  and  $R_{18}$  together with the C atoms to which they are attached, form a 4-7 membered nonaromatic ring optionally containing up to two heteroatoms selected independently from N, O and S; or~~  
 ~~$R_{20}$  and  $R_{21}$ , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form an optionally  $R_{26}$ - and/or  $R_{27}$ -substituted aryl or heteroaryl;~~  
each of  $R_{24}$ ,  $R_{29}$  and  $R_{30}$ , independently, is H;  $C_1-C_6$ -alkyl;  $C_2-C_6$ -alkoxyalkyl;  $C_1-C_6$ -halogenoalkyl;  $C_3-C_7$ -cycloalkyl; or optionally  $R_{26}$ - and/or  $R_{27}$ -substituted aryl, aryl $C_{1-4}$ -alkyl or heteroaryl;  
 $R_{25}$  represents 1-to-4 substituents each, independently, H; F; Cl; Br;  $C_1-C_6$ -alkyl;  $C_2-C_6$ -alkoxyalkyl;  $C_1-C_6$ -halogenoalkyl;  $C_3-C_6$ -cycloalkyl; optionally  $R_{26}$ - and/or  $R_{27}$ -substituted aryl or heteroaryl;  $CONR_{29}R_{30}$ ;  $COOR_{29}$ ; CN;  $NO_2$ ; or  $OR_{31}$   
having one of the significances given for  $R_{10-23}$  above;  
 $R_{26}$  represents 1-to-4 substituents each, independently, selected from  $C_1-C_6$ -alkyl;  $C_1-C_6$ -hydroxyalkyl;  $C_2-C_6$ -alkoxyalkyl;  $C_1-C_6$ -halogenoalkyl;  $C_3-C_6$ -cycloalkyl;  $C_2-C_6$ -alkenyl;  $C_3-C_6$ -cycloalkenyl;  $C_2-C_6$ -alkynyl; aryl; heteroaryl; heteroaryl N-oxide; F; Cl; Br; I; OH;  $OR_4$ ;  $CONH_2$ ;  $CONHR_4$ ;  $CONR_4R_4$ ;  $OC(O)R_4$ ;  $OC(O)OR_4$ ;  $OC(O)NHR_4$ ;  $OC(O)NR_4R_4$ ;  $OSO_2R_4$ ; COOH;  $COOR_4$ ;  $CF_3$ ;  $CH_2F$ ; CN;  $NO_2$ ;  $NH_2$ ;  $NHR_4$ ;  $NR_4R_4$ ;  $NHC(O)R_4$ ;  $NR_4C(O)R_4$ ;  $NHC(O)NHR_4$ ;  $NHC(O)NH_2$ ;  $NR_4C(O)NHR_4$ ;  $NR_4C(O)NR_4R_4$ ;  $NHC(O)OR_4$ ;  $NR_4C(O)OR_4$ ;  $NHSO_2R_4$ ;  $N(SO_2R_4)_2$ ;  $NR_4SO_2R_4$ ;  $SR_4$ ;  $S(O)R_4$ ;  $SO_2R_4$ ;  $Si(CH_3)_3$  and  $B(OC(CH_3)_2)_2$ ;  
 $R_{27}$  represents two adjacent substituents which form an annulated 4-7-membered nonaromatic ring optionally containing up to two heteroatoms selected,

independently, from N, O and S;

R<sub>31</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl; optionally R<sub>26</sub>- and/or R<sub>27</sub>-substituted aryl, arylC<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl or heteroaryl; or CF<sub>3</sub>;  
or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Currently amended) A compound according to Claim 1, which is selected from 1,3-dicyclohexyl-2-(5,6-dihydro-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea, 1-cyclohexyl-3-cyclopentyl-2-(5,6-dihydro-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea, 1-cycloheptyl-3-cyclohexyl-2-(5,6-dihydro-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea, 1,3-dicycloheptyl-2-(5,6-dihydroimidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea, 1-cyclohexyl-3-cyclooctyl-2-(5,6-dihydroimidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea, 1,3-dicyclohexyl-2-(6,6-dimethyl-5,6-dihydroimidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea, 1,3-dicyclooctyl-2-(5,6-dihydroimidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea and 1,3-dicycloheptyl-2-(6,6-dimethyl-5,6-dihydroimidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea.

3. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 in free form or in a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt form in association with and a pharmaceutically-acceptable diluent or carrier therefor.

4-6. (Withdrawn by the Examiner)

7. (Withdrawn by the Examiner, subject to rejoinder)

8-15. (Withdrawn by the Examiner)